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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/509,517	09/28/2004	Yoshio Sano	Q83378	5685

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EXAMINER	
YI, STELLA KIM	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1791	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
03/28/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

USPTO@sughrue.com
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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/509,517	SANO, YOSHIO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Stella Yi	1791	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *28 September 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4 and 7-10* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *5 and 6* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *04/10/2007, 07/31/2006, 09/28/2004*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Summary

1. This is the Initial Office Action for Application No. 10/509517 filed on September 28, 2004.

2. Claims 1-10 are currently pending and have been fully considered.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 5 and 6 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend on another multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). In this case, multiple claims 5 and 6 depend on multiple dependent claim 3. Accordingly, the claims 5 and 6 have not been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over KAZUNORI (JP 06-270042) and in view of OTTO et al. (4,520,596) and KATSUHIRO et al. (JP 61-261011).

Regarding Claims 1 and 2, KAZUNORI discloses a surface-cleaning apparatus in the manufacturing of an optical member that comprises:

a rotating surface wearing member (abrasion member) that is forced on the surface of the plastic lens (Page 3, [0021]);

the said plastic lens is fixed on a rotating suction adsoprtion member (Page 3, [0023]);

the surface of the said plastic lens, while being rotated, is cleaned by the surface wearing member (abrasion member) with water (Page 4, [0025]);

a drying device in which, while the said plastic lens is being rotated, the surface of the said plastic lens is dried by supplying a volatile liquid (Page 4, [0025]; Page 6, [0052]).

In Drawings 1-3 of KAZUNORI, the plastic lens has both concave and convex surfaces. KAZUNORI discloses that the surface-cleaning apparatus was performed also about the opposite side of the said plastic lens (Page 4, [0030]). That is, the surface-cleaning apparatus is performed on both concave and convex surfaces of the plastic lens. KAZUNORI is silent to utilizing a concave/convex mold and an inversion device that inverts a concave mold or convex mold up or down in manufacturing the optical lenses. However, OTTO et al. discloses a grinding machine for optical lenses that comprises a turning-over member (inversion device) which inverts lens molds for washing both

sides of an optical lens (Col.9, lines 8-26). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the surface-cleaning apparatus used in the manufacturing of optical lenses in KAZUNORI to include the turning-over member of OTTO et al. to invert lens molds in order to perform cleaning of both surfaces of optical lenses. Also, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that concave and convex molds are used to manufacture optical lenses. Therefore, lens molds are used in KAZUNORI to produce the said optical surfaces.

KAZUNORI does not explicitly disclose a positioning device which brings geometric centers of a concave mold and convex mold into coincidence and a tape winding device which winds an adhesive tape onto the surfaces of the positioned concave and convex molds. However, KATSUHIRO et al. discloses a taping device used in molding of plastic lenses where the molds are centered by the positioning device (Abstract). As shown in Figures 6, 10, and 11 of KATSUHIRO et al., the concave and convex molds have a predetermined distance spaced therein between and the taping or sealing of the molds may be achieved while keeping the said distance between the molding surfaces of the molds in constant (Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the surface-cleaning apparatus used for optical lenses in KAZUNORI to include the positioning

and taping device of KATSUHIRO et al. in order to manufacture optical lenses having both concave and convex surfaces.

Regarding Claim 3, KAZUNORI discloses a surface-cleaning apparatus in the manufacturing of an optical member that comprises a drying device in which, while the said plastic lens is being rotated, the surface of the said plastic lens is dried by supplying a volatile liquid (Page 4, [0025]; Page 6, [0052]). KAZUNORI discloses that the volatile liquid may be of hot-pure-water (Page 1, [0006]) and that dry-air is supplied by a jet nozzle that dries the fluid off the lens surface (Page 6, [0052]). KAZUNORI is silent to utilizing a concave/convex mold. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that concave and convex molds are used to manufacture optical lenses. Therefore, lens molds are used in KAZUNORI to produce the said optical surfaces.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over KAZUNORI (JP 06-270042) in view of OTTO et al. (4,520,596) as applied to claims 1-3 above and in further view of GIAMBALVO (4,223,782).

The modified teachings of KAZUNORI are applied as described above for claims 1-3.

Regarding Claim 4, KAZUNORI discloses a surface-cleaning apparatus in the manufacturing of an optical member that comprises supplying dry-air by a jet nozzle that dries the fluid off the lens surface (Page 6, [0052]). KAZUNORI is silent to utilizing a concave/convex mold. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that concave and convex molds are used to manufacture optical lenses. Therefore, lens molds are used in KAZUNORI to produce the said optical surfaces.

KAZUNORI does not explicitly disclose a cover member which covers the surroundings of the concave mold or the convex mold. However, GIAMBALVO discloses a contact les cleaning and rinsing device that is secured by enclosement within a transparent cover member (Col.5, lines 46-49). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the lens cleaning apparatus of KAZUNORI to include the cover member of GIAMBALVO in order to secure the cleaning device and reduce significant probability of loss as well as that of damage, by scratching during the accomplishment of cleaning operation (Col.3, lines 33-38).

7. Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over KAZUNORI (JP 06-270042) and in view of KATSUHIRO et al. (JP 61-261011).

Regarding Claim 7, KAZUNORI discloses a surface-cleaning method in the manufacturing of an optical member that comprises:

a rotating surface wearing member (abrasion member) that is forced on the surface of the plastic lens (Page 3, [0021]);

the said plastic lens is fixed on a rotating suction adsoprtion member (Page 3, [0023]);

the surface of the said plastic lens, while being rotated, is cleaned by the surface wearing member (abrasion member) with water (Page 4, [0025]);

a drying step in which, while the said plastic lens is being rotated, the surface of the said plastic lens is dried by supplying a volatile liquid (Page 4, [0025]; Page 6, [0052]).

In Drawings 1-3 of KAZUNORI, the plastic lens has both concave and convex surfaces. KAZUNORI discloses that the surface-cleaning apparatus was performed also about the opposite side of the said plastic lens (Page 4, [0030]). That is, the surface-cleaning apparatus is performed on both concave and convex surfaces of the plastic lens. KAZUNORI is silent to utilizing a concave/convex mold. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that concave and convex molds are used to manufacture optical lenses. Therefore, lens molds are used in KAZUNORI to produce the said optical surfaces.

Regarding Claim 8, KAZUNORI discloses that the volatile liquid may be of hot-pure-water (Page 1, [0006]) and that dry-air is supplied by a jet nozzle that dries the fluid off the lens surface (Page 6, [0052]).

Regarding Claims 9 and 10, KAZUNORI does not explicitly disclose a positioning step which brings geometric centers of a concave mold and convex mold into coincidence and a tape winding step which winds an adhesive tape onto the surfaces of the positioned concave and convex molds. However, KATSUHIRO et al. discloses a taping device used in molding of plastic lenses where the molds are centered by the positioning device (Abstract). As shown in Figures 6, 10, and 11 of KATSUHIRO et al., the concave and convex molds have a predetermined distance spaced therein between and the taping or sealing of the molds may be achieved while keeping the said distance between the molding surfaces of the molds in constant (Abstract). In Drawings 4, 10, and 11, KATSUHIRO et al. discloses the taping step where the tape draws out the adhesive tape from an adhesive tape roll beforehand (Drawing 4), and then winds the adhesive tape onto the peripheral surfaces of the concave and convex molds (Drawing 10 and 11). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the surface-cleaning apparatus used for optical lenses in KAZUNORI to include the positioning and taping step of KATSUHIRO et

al. in order to manufacture optical lenses having both concave and convex surfaces.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stella Yi whose telephone number is 571-270-5123. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Johnson can be reached on 571-272-1176. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SY

/Christina Johnson/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1791